

Senator Luz Escamilla proposes the following substitute bill:

GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CHANGES

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Luz Escamilla

House Sponsor: Edward H. Redd

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies provisions related to the Department of Workforce Services' General Assistance program.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

► establishes that ~~it~~ **the first \$250,000 of** ~~it~~ reimbursements to the Department of Workforce Services ~~it~~ **collected in a fiscal year** ~~it~~ for General Assistance paid to a recipient while the recipient is awaiting the determination of federal Supplemental Security Income may be used by the department for the General Assistance program;

► makes funding for General Assistance nonlapsing; and

► makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

35A-3-401, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2004, Chapter 29



26 **63J-1-602.2**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 338

27

28 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

29 Section 1. Section **35A-3-401** is amended to read:

30 **35A-3-401. General Assistance.**

31 (1) (a) The department may provide General Assistance [~~may be provided~~] to
32 individuals who are:

33 (i) not receiving cash assistance under Part 3, Family Employment Program, or
34 Supplemental Security Income[;]; and [~~who are~~]

35 (ii) unemployable according to standards established by the department.

36 (b) (i) General Assistance [~~may be provided by~~] described in Subsection (1)(a) may
37 include payment in cash or in kind.

38 (ii) The [~~office~~] department may provide General Assistance up to an amount [less]
39 that is no more than the existing payment level for an otherwise similarly situated [client of]
40 recipient receiving cash assistance under Part 3, Family Employment Program.

41 (iii) Funding for General Assistance is nonlapsing.

42 (c) The [~~office~~] department shall establish asset limitations for a General Assistance
43 [~~clients~~] applicant.

44 (d) (i) General Assistance may be granted to meet special nonrecurrent needs of an
45 applicant for the federal Supplemental Security Income [~~program~~] for the Aged, Blind, and
46 Disabled program provided under 20 C.F.R. Sec. 416, if the applicant agrees to reimburse the
47 [~~division~~] department for assistance advanced to the applicant while awaiting the determination
48 of eligibility by the Social Security Administration.

49 (ii) ~~H→~~ (a) [~~All reimbursements~~] **Reimbursements** ~~←H~~ to the department described in
49a Subsection (1)(d)(i) H→ up to and including \$250,000 collected in a fiscal year ←H shall be
50 used by the department to administer the General Assistance program and provide General
51 Assistance to eligible applicants.

51a ~~H→~~ (b) **Reimbursements to the department described in Subsection (1)(d)(i) over**
51b **\$250,000 collected in a fiscal year shall be deposited into the General Fund.** ~~←H~~

52 (iii) General Assistance payments may not be made to a [~~current client of~~]
53 recipient currently receiving:

54 (A) cash assistance; or

55 (B) Supplemental Security Income.

56 (e) (i) General Assistance may be used for the reasonable cost of burial for a [~~client,~~]

57 recipient if heirs or relatives are not financially able to assume this expense.

58 (ii) Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(e)(i), if the body of a person is unclaimed, Section
59 [53B-17-301](#) applies.

60 (iii) The department shall fix the cost of a reasonable burial and conditions under
61 which burial expenditures may be made.

62 (2) The ~~[division]~~ department may cooperate with any governmental unit or agency, or
63 any private nonprofit agency₂ in establishing work projects to provide employment for
64 employable persons.

65 Section 2. Section **63J-1-602.2** is amended to read:

66 **63J-1-602.2. List of nonlapsing funds and accounts -- Title 31 through Title 45.**

67 (1) Appropriations from the Technology Development Restricted Account created in
68 Section [31A-3-104](#).

69 (2) Appropriations from the Criminal Background Check Restricted Account created in
70 Section [31A-3-105](#).

71 (3) Appropriations from the Captive Insurance Restricted Account created in Section
72 [31A-3-304](#), except to the extent that Section [31A-3-304](#) makes the money received under that
73 section free revenue.

74 (4) Appropriations from the Title Licensee Enforcement Restricted Account created in
75 Section [31A-23a-415](#).

76 (5) Appropriations from the Health Insurance Actuarial Review Restricted Account
77 created in Section [31A-30-115](#).

78 (6) Appropriations from the Insurance Fraud Investigation Restricted Account created
79 in Section [31A-31-108](#).

80 (7) Appropriations from the Underage Drinking Prevention Media and Education
81 Campaign Restricted Account created in Section [32B-2-306](#).

82 (8) Funding for the General Assistance program administered by the Department of
83 Workforce Services, as provided in Section [35A-3-401](#).

84 [~~(8)~~] (9) The Youth Development Organization Restricted Account created in Section
85 [35A-8-1903](#).

86 [~~(9)~~] (10) The Youth Character Organization Restricted Account created in Section
87 [35A-8-2003](#).

88 [~~(10)~~] (11) Funding for a new program or agency that is designated as nonlapsing under
89 Section [36-24-101](#).

90 [~~(11)~~] (12) Appropriations from the Oil and Gas Conservation Account created in
91 Section [40-6-14.5](#).

92 [~~(12)~~] (13) Appropriations from the Electronic Payment Fee Restricted Account
93 created by Section [41-1a-121](#) to the Motor Vehicle Division.

94 [~~(13)~~] (14) Funds available to the Tax Commission under Section [41-1a-1201](#) for the:

95 (a) purchase and distribution of license plates and decals; and

96 (b) administration and enforcement of motor vehicle registration requirements.